

MIAMI COUNTY COUNCIL
25 NORTH BROADWAY
PERU, INDIANA 46970
MARCH 18, 2014

Council President Ralph Duckwall called the meeting to order and Councilman Wiles led the group in prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance.

Councilman Hunt – Present
Councilwoman Harp – Present
Councilman Boyer – Absent
Councilman McAuliffe – Present
Councilman Wiles – Present
Councilwoman Mull – Present
Councilman Duckwall – Present

COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Council President Ralph Duckwall stated that the AIC District meeting will be held on April 15th which is the same night as our Council meeting. Commissioner Francis will be attending that meeting and Council President asked him to bring back information for the Council.

President Duckwall reported for the committee checking into funds for the skate park. The Board of Commissioners has agreed to let the County Engineer do the wastewater work (which requires an Engineer) as an in-kind donation. That service will be the County's contribution.

MINUTES

Councilman McAuliffe made a motion to approve the February minutes. Councilman Hunt 2nd the motion and it passed 6-0.

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS/TRANSFERS

VOCA GRANT

The VOCA Grant provides funds for part time help but there was no request for it in the County budget. The Prosecutor is requesting an additional appropriation of \$5,880 to be able to hire a part time person. Councilman McAuliffe made a motion to

SURVEYOR PERPETUATION

Greg Wilkinson, Surveyor, asked for an appropriation of \$9,000 for work on cornerstones. He is required to 5% of the cornerstones a year. Councilwoman Mull made a motion to allow. Councilman Hunt 2nd the motion and it passed 5-0-1 (McAuliffe abstained)

CLERK

The Clerk is in need of some new computers. She is asking for an appropriation from three different funds to purchase them.

Clerk Perpetuation - \$2,000

Councilwoman Harp made a motion to allow. Councilwoman Mull 2nd the motion and it passed 6-0.

Clerk 4D - \$1,000

Councilwoman Mull made a motion to allow. Councilman Wiles 2nd the motion and it passed 6-0.

Voter Enhancement - \$ 794

Councilman McAuliffe made a motion to allow. Councilman Hunt 2nd the motion and it passed 6-0.

C.E.D.I.T.

The first appropriation requested from C.E.D.I.T. is \$2,000 for dues to the 31 Coalition, which will allow the County to have one seat on the Board. Councilman McAuliffe asked if the City is going to put money in. Mr. Tidd said they have not approached the City yet but maybe the County could pay the \$2,000 one year and the City pay the next year. Councilman McAuliffe asked if the Engineer could fill the position. Mr. Tidd responded that it can be anyone. Councilman McAuliffe made a motion to approve the appropriation. Councilwoman Mull 2nd the motion and it passed 6-0.

The other appropriation requested from C.E.D.I.T. was for \$388,666 to finish the Hanger 200 project. There was money left in the line from the original appropriation but there were no contracts in place in order to encumber the money. All but \$84,000 will be reimbursed from the other sources. Councilman McAuliffe made a motion to allow the appropriation. Councilwoman Mull 2nd the motion and it passed 6-0.

COUNCIL DISCUSSION

None

REQUEST FOR AUDIENCE

None

COMMITTEE REPORTS

None

PUBLIC COMMENT

Dave Hamby, Community of Miami, stated that his name on the list of possible appointees for the open position on the Miami Sewer Board and he had turned in a resume, which he had spent a lot of time on, but the President of the Council did not share the resume with the rest of the Council. Mr. Hamby felt like he did not get a fair shake because the other members of the Council did not see it.

President Duckwall stated that resumes were not asked for, therefore no one else submitted one. That would be a whole different procedure. The Council did as they have always done, appointed the person recommended by the Sewer Board. Councilman Wiles asked Mr. Hamby why he did not say anything at the meeting last month. Mr. Hamby stated that it all went very fast. President Duckwall asked Elizabeth Price, Attorney, if the appointment would be good till the end of the term and she said that was correct.

President Duckwall told Mr. Hamby that he could give his information to the other Council members after the meeting and if the members wanted to revisit or have another conversation regarding the appointment, they could contact him.

Becky Hodson, Community of Miami, stated that Area 5 was helping them apply for a grant to help the citizens (39 – 40) of Miami, who could not afford the hookup. However they cannot submit the grant until August and it will take 4 months from then. Mrs. Hodson wanted to know if the Council could stall the project until they get the grant. President Duckwall stated they are the County financial Board and as such did not have that kind of authority. Mrs. Hodson asked who has authority over the Sewer Board? Would the community have to take legal action against the Board?

President Duckwall said he did not know what to say. They are the County Fiscal Board and do not handle this kind of issue. Mr. Hamby stated that Cathy Miller from Area 5 seemed to be very good and this was not her first rodeo.

Mrs. Hodson stated that the people in the community have been threatened by the Sewer Board, that their homes would be condemned if they did not hook up to the sewer. Councilwoman Mull was very upset that the Sewer Board would threaten these people.

Councilwoman Mull asked if the Township Trustee could help the residents. Mr. Hamby stated that Ralph Cory only has \$30,000 to help and that would not help very many.

Commissioner West stated that Cathy Miller and Greg Behmer would be at the Commissioner's meeting on April 7th.

Councilman McAuliffe made a motion to adjourn. Councilwoman Mull 2nd the motion and it passed 6-0.

Respectfully submitted

Jane Lilley
Miami County Auditor